Contact: Sgt. Chris Benavides Date: 01-14-10 Release No. 2010-06

NEWS RELEASE

SAPD Officer Involved Shooting

A preliminary investigation pertaining to an officer involved shooting reveals the following:

On January 13, 2010, SAPD officers received information of a kidnapping/hostage situation. The victim had been taken hostage, assaulted, and threatened with torture over a drug cash debt he owed to the suspects. Early this morning, arrangements were made for the release of the hostage at the Mayan 14 theatre located at 1918 SW Military Dr. two suspects arrived at the theatre with the hostage. One of the suspects (the driver) exited the suspect vehicle with the hostage. As the hostage was released, officers at the scene approached the suspects in an attempt to make the apprehension. The suspect managed to get back into the suspect vehicle and drove toward the officers and the hostage. The officers and the hostage were on foot and in the direct path of the suspect vehicle. One of the officers on foot was struck by the suspect vehicle but did not require medical treatment. Other officers that were on foot and approaching the suspects were also in danger of being struck or run over by the suspect vehicle. Fearing that the officers and/or hostage would be struck and possibly killed by the suspect vehicle, one of the officers fired his duty weapon several times striking the suspect (driver) once. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. The second suspect in the suspect vehicle was taken into custody. The officers and the hostage were not harmed.

The shooting team is currently investigating the incident. As per department protocol the officer, a 15 year veteran of the department, will be placed on administrative duty.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE